liberalized Industrial Policy, decision to set up industry depends upon the techno-economic assessment of the entrepreneur which, in turn, is also dependent upon the initiatives taken by the State Government by way of providing basic infrastructural facilities and other incentives. Industrial Development is primarily the responsibility of the concerned State Government. The Central Government supports the efforts by providing support/incentive under its various Schemes, particularly for development of industrially disadvantageous areas.

The number of Industrial Entrepreneur Memoranda (IEMs) filed and Lettters of Intent (LoIs) / Direct Industrial Licences (DILs) issued during the period 01-01-2003 to 31-10-2005 was 14434 with proposed investment of Rs. 675484 crore.

Livelihood provided by retail markets

†2274. SHRI RAJ MOHINDER SINGH MAJITHA:
SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to State :

(a) whether it is a fact that 40 per cent people are earning their livelihood in retail markets as a self-employment in the country;

(b) if not, estimate made by Government in this regard;

(c) whether it is a fact that by incorporting technology based system in present retail marketing system, more employment opportunities would be generated with less capital investment; and

(d) if not, the facts thereof and reaction of Government in this matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGOVAN): (a) and (b) As per 10th Five Year Plan, trading provides employment to approximatelhy 36 million people, majority of whom are self employed engaged in retail and wholesale trade.

(c) and (d) Generation of more employment opportunities would depend on several factors which include overall growth of economy, growth of allied industries, development of logistic services.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.